Fly-by-night aviation clubs

4235. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Want a licence to fly? Shell out Rs. 19 lakh in Mumbai" which appeared in The Indian Express dated the 16th April, 2002;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether these fly-by-night aviation clubs are recognized by the States or the Central Government;

(d) whether these clubs have infrastructure for flying;

(e) if so, the details thereof;and

(f) if not, whether Government would ban such clubs which jeopardise the lives of trainees?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) A Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) has been issued under the provisions of Aircraft Rules, 1937 by Directorate General of Civil Aviation for approval of flying training institutes in the country. The CAR lays down the procedure and minimum requirements relating to infrastructure,procedures and manpower for grant of approval before undertaking flying training activities with aircraft having maximum certified take off mass not exceeding 5700 kgs. Approval is granted to only those flying clubs which meet these requirements.

Free journeys in IA/AI

4236. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines/Air India and other airlines, as a measure of incentive, have been allowing free journeys both on domestic as well as international routes;

(b) if so, what are the rules with regard to such free journeys where the original journeys are performed out of Government funds; and

(c) whether a Government official or any person entitled to travel for